



SCOTTISH ROWING

ANNUAL
REVIEW
2020-21

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It was at the AGM in October 2009 that I was duly elected as a Board member and at that time Scottish Rowing was only just over 6 months old having made the transition from being the Scottish Amateur Rowing Association in Spring that year. There was a lot of work still to do in terms of building Scottish Rowing into a fit for purpose governing body. It needed a viable structure with governance arrangements that were robust, adequate and appropriate for a body that not only needed to meet the needs of its members but also was accountable for the public money being invested in the sport.

Over the last 12 years Scottish Rowing has by necessity evolved significantly from its proud amateur roots. With a strong core of a staff team led by Amanda Cobb since the inception of her post of Chief Operating Officer and with the support of a wide range of volunteers I am in no doubt that, as the governing body for the sport of rowing in Scotland, that body as a whole is now in rude health and very much pulling its weight.

We may be small in size compared to our colleagues south of the border but this year there was a record 8 Scottish athletes in the Team GB Olympic squad. This is testament to the fact that Scotland has the capability to deliver increasingly successful performance programmes. I will not dwell on the overall performance of the GB squad which is the subject of much ongoing scrutiny but just to place that performance in context; from the 10 GB crews at this year's Olympics, 8 qualified for medal finals with 6 fourth place finishes in addition to the 2 medal boats. So it was fine margins, the oft quoted "inches", between podium success and going home empty handed. But it was excellent to see Angus Groom and Harry Leask gaining silver with their first ever GB Olympic medals in the mens' quad.

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Sport governance requires that Board members stand down after 12 years and so, quite rightly, it is time for me to do so. In doing so I'd like to extend my thanks to various people.

I mentioned volunteers. Virtually everything that takes place in rowing is enabled by volunteers. Coaches, boat fixers, club committees, trailer drivers, umpires, race marshals, regatta organisers, caterers, entry secretaries – and the rest. To all of you may I express my sincere gratitude for all that you do and have done that supports everyone from the hesitant beginner to the high-performance GB athlete in waiting.

I also wish to thank Amanda and her team. When I look back at the wide range of initiatives and projects that the staff have not only identified but also enabled there is no doubt that without their imagination, sense of purpose and drive we would not have extended the reach and accessibility of rowing to the extent that we can now see. Amanda has led them with aplomb, decisiveness and professionalism throughout.

In the background and not necessarily evident to some members is the team at sportscotland and in particular my thanks go to the partnership managers who have played a key role in working with the Board and with Amanda to help us deliver the right outcomes for the sport.

Another volunteer group is the Board itself. It has been a delight to have the wide-ranging breadth of views and opinions presented by the current board membership. I would like to thank Elizabeth Mitchell for her engagement and the challenges she has set and wish her well as she too stands down from the Board.

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I'll finish on this note. Last year I mentioned the opportunities that could be seized as we emerge from the pandemic and how we could shape the new normal. The importance of sport and recreation in supporting both physical and mental health has become much more widely recognised and rowing absolutely has a role to play in that. As the IOC looks to extending the reach of sport to wider sectors of the global population and with traditional Olympic sports being challenged to diversify, rowing again has a role to play but it has to do it differently. Flat water 2K racing in fine boats may in the future no longer be the pinnacle of our sport as coastal and sprint race formats become more widely adopted.

I would encourage you all to take a fresh look at what rowing represents and how it is delivered. Whilst the human race is instinctively competitive, we also seem to have this innate attraction to water whether it to be on it, in it or indeed under it. The common thread is enjoyment so my challenge to you all be it at an individual, club or governing body level is to look to see what can be done to continue to make rowing an enjoyable and fun sport that is as accessible to as many people as possible.

Martin Claxton

President

Scottish Rowing

AMANDA COBB

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER'S REPORT



What a year of contrasts 2020-21 has been. It is easy to look back on the last year and see only what we have missed out on as a sport, but there has also been much to celebrate.

It has been a long 18 months since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic for clubs and rowers but the resilience of clubs and the volunteers who run them has been amazing. The task of dealing with the changing restrictions and associated guidance has been immense, and club committees have stepped up to the challenge with diligence, common sense and seemingly endless reserves of energy. Particular thanks are due to those individuals who stepped up and took on the role of COVID officer for their club. While I know there have been frustrations along the way, we have worked hard to produce clear guidance and to ensure rowing was able to restart safely.

The impact on clubs cannot be understated. Rowing was limited to single sculling for a long period over the winter and travel restrictions meant some clubs were not able to get on the water even when rowing was permitted. The strain on the volunteers who run clubs also cannot be underestimated and it is clear that the last few months have taken their toll.

The impact on Scottish Rowing has also been significant. Scottish Rowing memberships fell to under 400 at the low point towards the end of the long winter of restrictions. However, as competition returned in the summer and clubs were able to get back on the water in crew boats (and even think about introducing new people to the sport), membership numbers have started to recover.

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There have been some positives to come out of the pandemic too. We have worked more closely with colleagues from British and Welsh Rowing and that collaboration is continuing. More importantly, the move onto online communications platforms has improved our connectedness as a community and this is to be celebrated and built on.

During the long periods of restrictions, a range of activities and support such as the Winter Webinar series and the Winter League, was offered to clubs and members – even when we couldn't get on the water. Our aspiring athletes were supported through the winter by the work done by Lee Boucher to secure performance exemptions for training during lockdowns and the Scottish Rowing Centre was made available to a number of athletes on the GB pathway.

As life started to open up, our attention turned to preparing for the return to rowing and a team of volunteers and staff drew up plans for the restart of competition and a new suite of Learn To Row resources was produced and circulated to clubs.

For those athletes at the elite end of the sport, the delayed Tokyo Olympic Games brought a record number of Scottish selections and a silver medal for Harry Leask and Angus Groom in the men's quad.

All of this shows that there is much to be proud of as a sport, however, we need to be careful, as we focus on rebuilding and recovery, that we do not create new barriers and inequalities. While the use of technology removes the barriers of geography, not everyone has access to or is comfortable using it. Remote training, if not thoughtfully structured, can favour those with space and fitness equipment and many people, who were not comfortable single sculling in fine boats found themselves excluded from the sport for the want of more accessible equipment.

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This year was an unexpected 5th year in our strategic cycle. We are currently in the process of looking ahead and developing our strategic plan for the next 3 years to March 2025 and there are three main themes emerging.

First, as we work together as a community to rebuild and recover, it is even more important that we understand and remove the barriers to participation in our sport. We have the opportunity to challenge what we do and why - to make sure our sport is open and appealing to a wide range of people. Increasing the reach of the sport is prominently and explicitly featured as one of our themes.

Next it is vital that Scottish Rowing and our community of clubs offer opportunities (or pathways) to keep people involved in the sport at whatever level is right for them. With the pandemic putting the importance of physical activity for both mental and physical wellbeing into sharp focus, we want to ensure rowing is playing its part. There is a need to do more to address the drop off at age 16 and when students graduate, and there is also a need to cater better for those entering the sport later in life. We lose too many people from the sport at these critical points.

Finally, it is member clubs that provide the places and opportunities for people to row and a strong network of healthy and resilient clubs will deliver a strong successful sport. A key to healthy and resilient clubs is good governance. Safety, safeguarding, good coaching and robust planning for the future are all vital components of a well-run club and we want to improve the support we provide to the club volunteers who take on these responsibilities.

This year has seen some changes to the staff team. I am delighted to welcome Kimberly Murray to the team as our new Coaching Futures coach. Kim has already made an impact through her involvement in shaping the recently launched Junior Academy programme.

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Unfortunately, Adam Hardy, Competition and Events manager, left us for pastures new at the start of October 2021. I would like to thank Adam for the huge contribution he has made to the ongoing work on competition over the last four years.

Also stepping down is Martin Claxton, Scottish Rowing President. I would like to thank Martin, both personally and on behalf of Scottish Rowing, for his contribution and service to Scottish Rowing during his twelve years on the Board. I have enjoyed working with Martin and will miss his calm, logical leadership, clear thinking and insight. Martin will continue to serve as the Home Nations Director on the Board of British Rowing until the end of his term in 2024.

Finally, I would like to end my report with a few thanks. First, to our funding partners **sportscotland** for all their support throughout the pandemic. To the Scottish Rowing staff team for their continued enthusiasm and desire to make things happen despite all the many cancellations, last minute changes and setbacks as a result of COVID-19. Thanks also to the Scottish Rowing Directors for their time, support and input this year and in particular to the strategic planning process. However, the biggest thanks as always go to all the volunteers throughout the sport who have worked so hard to deliver activities in difficult circumstances this year.

Amanda Cobb

Chief Operating Officer

Scottish Rowing

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The pandemic continued to impact the 2020-21 season however it also saw the return of local, national and international competition including Tokyo 2020 which went ahead with strict mitigation measures in place for all competitors and minimal spectators.

TOKYO 2020



SCOTTISH ROWERS* (MISSING LUCY GLOVER) ON TEAM GB FOR TOKYO 2020 *AS DEFINED BY UK SPORT SELF-CLASSIFICATION (IMAGE BY BRITISH ROWING)

Based on medal output, Team GB had a disappointing Olympic Games in Tokyo with the only medals coming from the men's quad (silver) and the men's eight (bronze). However, digging a bit deeper into the results provides a more positive perspective. From the 10 GB crews at these Olympics, 8 had qualified for medal finals, one of the best conversion rates of any nation, with 6 fourth place finishes in addition to the 2 medal boats.

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From a Scottish perspective, there was a record number (8) of Scottish rowers selected for Team GB at Tokyo (the previous best had been 6 in Rio). It was particularly encouraging to see several athletes (Maddie Arlett, Lucy Glover and Polly Swann) who had received support through the Scottish Rowing Performance Programme within the Olympic cycle going on to achieve selection. The contribution of the University of Edinburgh and its coaching team should be applauded.

The men's quad, featuring Scots Harry Leask and Angus Groom, had earned GB their first ever Olympic medal in this boat class, showing real grit and fight coming down Lane 1 to win an outstanding silver medal. Many within the Scottish Rowing community will remember Harry as a talented young junior athlete who had mainly represented Clydesdale ARC before relocating to Leander Club, whilst Angus was part of the Scotland Rowing Team that topped the medal table at the 2014 Commonwealth Rowing Championships.

SCOTTISH ROWERS* ON TEAM GB FOR TOKYO 2020

(*AS DEFINED BY UK SPORT SELF-CLASSIFICATION)

- Silver - **Angus Groom** and **Harry Leask** in the men's quad scull (M4x)
- 4th - **Polly Swann** in the women's pair (W2-) *coached by **Hamish Burrell***
- 4th - **Karen Bennett** and **Rowan McKellar** in the women's four (W4-)
- 4th - **Sholto Carnegie** in the men's four (M4-)
- 7th - **Lucy Glover** in the women's quad (W4x)
- 7th - **Katherine Douglas** in the women's eight (W8+)
- **Maddie Arlett** was a travelling spare for the women's team

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GB ROWING TEAM AGE GROUP EVENTS

Miles Beeson (formerly of ASRA, now studying at Yale and representing Molesey Boat Club) won a gold medal as part of the GB Rowing Team men's eight at the 2021 World Rowing Under 23 Championships held in Racice, Czech Republic, in July.



GB ROWING TEAM 8+, 2021 WORLD ROWING UNDER 23 CHAMPIONSHIPS (IMAGE FROM MILES BEESON)

At the European Rowing Under 23 Championships held in Poland, James Doran of Edinburgh University Boat Club was in the gold medal winning men's eight alongside Henry Marles, formerly of University of St Andrews and now representing University of London.

Peter Morgan and Matthew Fielding were part of the men's quad in Poland, coached by Tom Young. Peter and Tom are part of the World Class Start programme based at Strathclyde Park, whilst Matthew is a former Clydesdale junior athlete now representing Edinburgh University Boat Club as a non-student athlete.

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Despite a good start to their racing, winning their heat, in their final one of their crew caught a buoy resulting in a boat stopping crab and they ended up in sixth position across the finish line.

As many as 10 Scottish juniors were in realistic contention for GB seats when British Rowing took the decision not to send any crews to the World Rowing Junior Championships and Coupe de la Jeunesse this summer. The Scottish junior women in particular had performed especially well at the June trials at Dorney before the decision not to form teams was taken only a matter of days later.

PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

Four new athletes – Chris Bardas (URA), Cameron Buchan, Cameron Kemp and Peter Morgan (all SPRC) – were selected onto the Scottish Rowing Performance Programme at the start of the 2020/21 season, with Kate Jones and Katie Sugden (both URA) stepping away from the programme and the trials process.

With the early part of the season continuing to be impacted by lockdown and other national restrictions, Scottish Rowing moved quickly to introduce a Return to Performance Training plan, approved by **sportscotland** and the Scottish Government, which provided certain exemptions to allow athletes on a GB pathway to continue their training through the period.

In October, Scottish Rowing reached an agreement with the **sportscotland** institute of sport which saw Institute led strength and conditioning sessions introduced twice weekly at the Scottish Rowing Centre for supported athletes. This had been a long-term ambition of the performance programme as it brought together rowers from different club programmes, allowing them to complete land and water-based training at the same venue without having to travel to regional institute facilities.

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The Scottish Rowing Centre also hosted a 10-day residential land training camp in early January for performance programme athletes supported by coaches from our partner programmes and practitioners from the sportscotland institute of sport.

To support the preparation for upcoming GB trials, Scottish Rowing organised a closed water assessment for those senior and junior rowers who had been training under the performance exemption status. This took place at Auchinstarry in February and provided athletes and coaches with a benchmark of their performance level after training through the winter period.

Scottish Rowing provided an athlete development project leading into Henley Women's Regatta in July for 17 junior athletes from 6 member clubs who otherwise may not have had the opportunity to compete. The project included group training sessions supervised by Scottish Rowing appointed coaches, shared boat transport and composite club entries with lots of fun had and many encouraging results across the group.

Additional support was provided by Scottish Rowing for athletes attending GB Rowing Team senior, under 23 and junior trials across the season. I'd also like to acknowledge the efforts made by our coaches, going above and beyond throughout the pandemic to ensure that our rowers were able to train and get to key trials and competitions despite the extra challenges and hurdles faced because of COVID-19.

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COACHING UPDATES

Lewis McCue stepped down as Head Coach of University Rowing Aberdeen in August to take on a new role as a performance coach with the University of Edinburgh. After coming through the URA programme himself as an athlete, Lewis has been instrumental over the past 5 years in bringing together the two student clubs in Aberdeen, modernising the boat fleet and training facilities, and stepping on the performance levels. He leaves the programme in a strong position for others to pick up.

Scottish Rowing supported the University of St Andrews with their recruitment for a new Director of Rowing which ultimately saw Rio Olympian Alan Sinclair appointed following a competitive process. The former Inverness Rowing Club and Aberdeen University Boat Club athlete made an instant impact on his new club helping to support strong performances at Henley Royal Regatta and the British Rowing Offshore and Beach Sprints Championships.

Former GB skeleton international Kim Murray has been appointed as Scottish Rowing's new Coaching Futures apprentice coach, taking up post at the start of June. Prior to her skeleton career Kim had been employed as a performance physiologist working with the sportscotland institute of sport where she was the lead physiologist working with Scottish Rowing. Kim will be supporting Scottish Rowing's performance pathway initiatives whilst learning 'on the job' from the wider performance team and partner programmes.

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We continue to be fortunate to work with great people and partners to enable all our activity. I would like to thank everyone who has worked tirelessly through this challenging period to provide opportunities to support athlete progression. This includes our partners sportsotland, Winning Students, SportsAid Scotland, British Rowing, the University of Edinburgh, the University of Glasgow, the University of Aberdeen and Robert Gordon University, as well as our coaches, practitioners, parents and volunteers. Thank you!

With some exciting new athlete and coach development initiatives recently announced we look forward to continuing to build momentum in the 2021-22 season.

Lee Boucher

Head of Performance Pathway

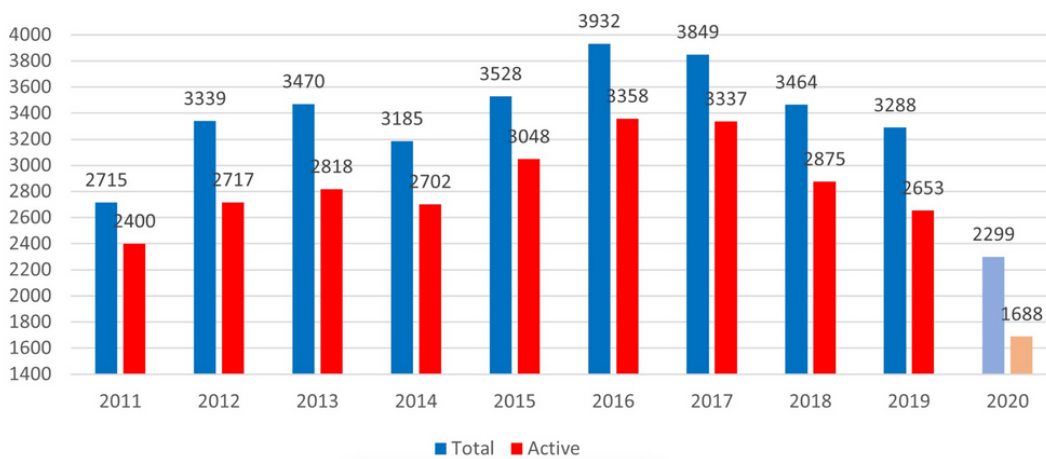
Scottish Rowing

MEMBERSHIP

The chart below shows the trend in reported membership over the last ten years. This is the combined membership reported through the club annual returns.

The impact of covid is clear to see with total and active membership significantly down. Active club membership was down some 28%. Junior membership was hit particularly hard with active junior membership down around 47%, a major factor in this being the impact on schools and school sport. Adult active membership was more resilient with a drop of c.15%.

Membership Numbers 2011-2020



In addition to the core membership, we also collect data on other activity such as learn to row courses, outreach and community activities whether on or off the water, and come and try events.

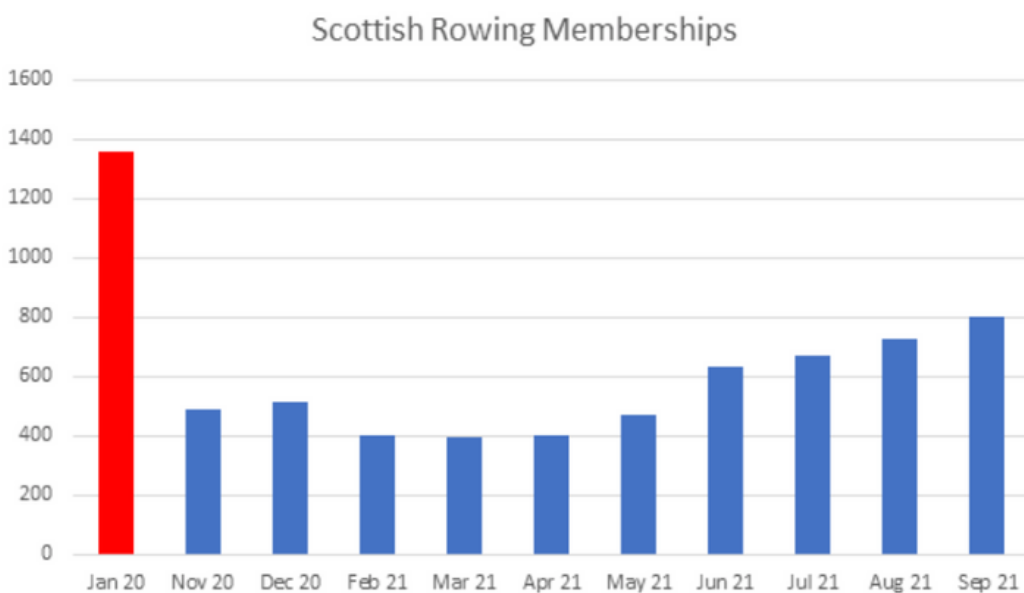
A breakdown of this activity, including Scottish Rowing activity is set out in the table on the following page. The 2020 figures cover the period from October 2019 to October 2020 and will, therefore, include some pre-lockdown activity.

MEMBERSHIP

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Participation Activity (Clubs)	2019	2020
Learn to Row	549	213
Come and Try	631	320
Corporate Regatta or event participation	157	180
Schools or community participant (indoor)	555	314
Schools or community participant (on water)	409	229
Other participation	127	218
Total Activity (Clubs)	2428	1474
Participation Activity (Scottish Rowing)		
Schools League Participants (net of those doing 3 rounds)	1491	950
Firhill Youth Project	-	24
North Lanarkshire ASN Schools	60	48
Total other Activity Scottish Rowing	1551	1022
Total Sport	3979	2496

Scottish Rowing membership numbers were also impacted by COVID as can be seen in the chart below, which compares active memberships in January 2020 with November 2020 through to September 2021.



PARTICIPATION & DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Scottish Rowing continued to support the outreach project at Firhill Basin this year. The programme opened its doors again in March and has run regular core and outreach sessions working with local schools and community groups.

Unfortunately we were not able to get the ASN Schools project with North Lanarkshire schools up and running again post lockdown but there are now weekly Active Schools rowing sessions running at Strathclyde Park, delivered by Scottish Rowing.

SUPPORT FOR CLUBS

The Return to Rowing guidance was a significant piece of work that continued through the winter right up until the easing of restrictions in August this year.

During the winter Scottish Rowing also provided a series of workshops and online forums for club leaders covering general advice, advice for reopening facilities and gyms, Return to Rowing guidance and return to competition. These workshops have been a positive addition and we will continue offering these to supplement the normal club workshops/conferences.

The Winter League took over where the Lockdown League left off, with challenges and activities to keep people active and provide a bit of fun competition while we were unable to get on the water.

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LEARN TO ROW RESOURCES

In readiness for the easing of the restrictions for sport, we circulated a new suite of learn to row resources to clubs. Clubs can access these resources by contacting erin.wyness@scottish-rowing.org.uk.



COACHING - WINTER WEBINAR SERIES

The Scottish Rowing Winter Webinar Series was comprised of 12 sessions delivered by four renowned experts aimed at athletes and coxes, coaches and parents.

European Champion and GB Olympic silver medal winning cox from Rio 2016 Zoe de Toledo delivered a trio of coxing webinars, focussed on how to improve coxing skill and performance.

Robin Williams provided three sessions following his well-received 'Technical Excellence' series earlier in the summer of 2020. This series provided Scottish Rowing members a further opportunity to dive deeper into Robin's exceptional knowledge and understanding of the intricacies of our sport from one of the world's most successful rowing coaches.

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Alex Wolf shared his years of experience as the Head of Strength and Conditioning for the GB Rowing Team over multiple Olympic cycles and provided the opportunity to explore key concepts within strength and conditioning and how it relates to rowing training and performance.

Finally, Eira Parry of HP Parenting, delivered a series of 3 workshops for parents of young athletes to help fulfil sporting potential. The workshops (“Sport / Life Balance”, “Being a Great Rowing Parent” and “Mental Toughness and Teamwork”) were attended by 91 parents across all 3 sessions.

COMPETITION & EVENTS

The competition calendar was put on hold for much of 2020-21. The initial Return to Rowing Guidance for competition made it difficult to run a traditional head race but Glasgow Schools Rowing Club was able to run a small event in the autumn of 2020. After extensive work over the winter, we adapted the competition guidance in a way that was more appropriate for rowing in readiness for the spring of 2021.

The Scottish Rowing Competition Strategy Group was keen to ensure that there were opportunities to compete over the summer while recognising that the traditional summer events would not meet the needs of rowers whose opportunities to train on the water had been severely restricted and as a result the Junior Summer Regatta and the LochDown Regatta were offered.



CLYDESDALE RC SCULLER AT THE LOCHDOWN REGATTA (IMAGE BY SCOTTISH ROWING)

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The options for domestic competition increased through the summer, with The Northeast Regatta going ahead in close to its traditional slot and Castle Semple Regatta moving from May to an August date. Unfortunately, not all events were so lucky, with the Saints Regatta and the Autumn Challenge both cancelled due to low entries.

RETURN TO RACING – THE JUNIOR SUMMER REGATTA

It had been a long 615 days since the last 'on-the-water' rowing competition had taken place at Strathclyde Park so, with a lot of excitement, 210 rowers from 12 clubs around Scotland pulled on their one-pieces and turned up to compete at the 2021 Junior Summer Regatta on Saturday the 5th of June. It wasn't just fun for the competitors – coaches, umpires and volunteers had all been looking forward to the return to rowing.

In the months before, many hours of meetings took place to ensure that we could offer an event that complied with the ever-changing COVID-19 situation as well as finding a way for all junior athletes to get involved, regardless of their age or ability. Jen Thomson, Chair of the Regatta Organising Committee, said, *"We were aware that some clubs and athletes have had greater opportunities to train on and off the water in the last 15 months: it was essential for us to create a regatta that would welcome back all of our members and provide good racing for everyone who entered, with an opportunity to compete against crews of similar speed, regardless of age/ability."*

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On the day, the return to competition was fantastic: good weather, (relatively) calm water and plenty of smiling, excited club members and coaches back at Scotland's international-standard rowing course. The regatta wouldn't have been such a success without the hard work of the many volunteers who helped in advance of the competition and on the day: stakeboat volunteers, marshals, umpires and the Regatta Organising Committee. We also have to thank North Lanarkshire Council for their help delivering this event.

HOME INTERNATIONAL REGATTA

The Home International Regatta was cancelled for the second year running in 2021.

SCOTTISH ROWING INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Saturday 21st November 2020 the annual Scottish Rowing Indoor Championships (SRIC) went online and provided live, virtual racing – adapting to COVID-19 challenges and providing a competition format for all comers. This new format saw an entirely new challenge facing both the event organisers and competitors alike - which both took in their stride to make the event a huge success for all.

The event saw a record-breaking number of competitors and countries from around the world racing at the event. Competitors joined us from as far west as Colorado and our furthest east French Polynesia, with some of the competitors getting up in the middle of their night to join their races.

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MILES BEESON (LEFT) JUST AFTER BREAKING THE 2KM RECORD

Records were broken throughout the day with a highlight being former Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association athlete Miles Beeson, breaking Jack Burns' (Strathclyde University BC) 2013 Scottish Championships record by 0.6 of a second in an impressive time of 06:01.3.

Louise Wymer of Wallingford Rowing Club had a very successful day completing a clean sweep of wins in the W50-59 events, setting Championship records in all of her events the 2k, 1k and 500m.

Zoltán Bogár, international competitor from Hungary and a previous record holder in the M40-49 500m category went even faster this year beating his own record to set a new Men's Open 500m record with 1:16.5.

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A special mention must go to Valerie Coleman in the W90-99 2000m and 500m. A highlight for many during the day was the 92 year-old's impressive feat competing in two events.

And it wasn't just the competitors who went online – a team of volunteers from around the UK joined their commentating, production and marshalling teams from home ... they held their nerves when the technology presented challenges and shared the smiles and virtual high fives as the racing unfolded.



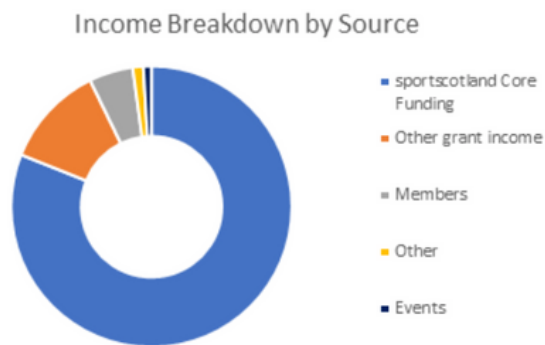
JEN AND SIMON KEEPING EVERYONE ON TRACK FROM 'RACE CONTROL' (IMAGE BY JEN THOMSON)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In the financial year ended 31 March 2021, Scottish Rowing generated a surplus of £25,484 (2019-20: Loss £19,762). Income generated was £498.4k (2019-20: £578.0k). Scottish Rowing received £403.8k of core funding from **sportscotland** (2019-20: £403.8k) of which £273.8k related to staff posts. Recognising the challenges faced by sport during the pandemic, sportscotland allowed flexibility in how core funding was invested during 2020-21 which was a significant help in the face of falling membership income. Other grant income was received from North Lanarkshire Council (under the COVID support scheme), **sportscotland** (in the form of non-core funding), Winning Students, Edinburgh University and Glasgow Life.

Membership income, which is made up of club affiliation fees, individual memberships and regatta fees, represented 5.1% of Scottish Rowing’s 2020-21 income. This compared with 9.4% in the previous year and reflects the fall in individual memberships as a result of COVID-19. Event income and associated costs were also affected by COVID-19, with only the Virtual Indoor Championships taking place. As a consequence, Scottish Rowing was more dependent than usual on grant funding and support in 2020-21.

Income	£000
sportscotland Core Funding	404
Other grant income	59
Members	25
Other	6
Events	5
TOTAL INCOME	<u>498</u>
Expenditure	
Performance	145
Governance	193
Sport Development	116
Member Services	19
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>473</u>



SCOTTISH ROWING AWARDS 2019-20 SEASON

The 2019-20 Scottish Rowing Awards took place on our social media channels with six awards being presented virtually.

Two new awards were launched this year including Volunteer Team of the Year and Initiative of the Year. The other four awards presented for the 2019-20 season were Junior Volunteer of the Year, Senior Volunteer of the Year, Club of the Year and Coach of the Year.

The level of nominations this year was very high and represented the great work that has been put into the last year across Scotland.

INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR

Shortlisted:

- Heriot Watt Sculling Championships
- Aberdeen Rowing Clubs - Riverbank Repair
- River Clyde Clear up

Winner - Dan Davidson (Aberdeen Rowing Clubs)



Dan single-handedly led the project to reinstate the riverbed profile that existed on the Dee before the 2015 floods. This was completed between 5th and 7th April 2020 with the excavation of 1700 tons of material from the newly formed shingle bank and its placement along a 160m stretch of the riverbank.

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VOLUNTEER TEAM OF THE YEAR

Shortlisted:

- Castle Semples Rowing Club Committee and Covid team
- Dundee University Boat Club Committee
- Stirling Rowing Club Committee and Coaches

Winner – Castle Semples Rowing Club



At an early stage of the COVID-19 'Lockdown' in March 2020, a volunteer team was established to monitor guidance from the Scottish Government and Scottish Rowing on managing club activity and

to distribute club equipment to club members to ensure they were able to keep physically active. This team worked tirelessly for long hours to keep CSRC operating as near normal as possible during lockdown.

JUNIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Winner: Joseph Peddie (Firhill Youth Project and Community Sports Hub)



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Since the launch of the Firhill Youth Project and Community Sports Hub in June 2019, Joseph (aged 16) has become one of the most dedicated volunteer coaches while retaining a high level of performance and commitment as an athlete with Glasgow Kayak Club. Joseph has helped to introduce multiple young people to water sports in addition to engaging in personal development opportunities to further his own knowledge, skills, and coaching experience.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Shortlisted:

- Katie McLaughlin (Glasgow Rowing Club)
- Tom Young (Strathclyde Park Rowing Club)
- Iain Docwra (Glasgow University Boat Club)

Winner: Katie McLaughlin (Glasgow Rowing Club)



During lockdown, when club activities were on hold, Katie ensured that the juniors were able to borrow ergs from the club and keep rowing. For those who were not able to access an ergo,

a separate cross-training training plan was developed so no one fell behind and everyone still felt part of the squad. A key factor was running Facebook Rooms sessions. This allowed everyone to keep in touch and get coaching even when organised activities were not possible.

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SENIOR VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Shortlisted:

- Dan Davidson (Aberdeen Boat Club)
- Jodie Cameron (University of St Andrews Boat Club)
- Matt McElroy (Castle Semple Rowing Club)

Winner: Jodie Cameron



Jodie was exceptional in how she took on the presidency following our previous coaches' departure. Finding an interim coach for first semester, the club continued to thrive with

the help of Jodie's relentless optimism and dedication to the club seeing it through the whole season successfully. With the continual cancellations and (re)planning in the 2019-20 season, Jodie led the committee throughout these ups and downs – knowing when to be decisive and when to be a positive light in difficult times.

CLUB OF THE YEAR

Shortlisted:

- Glasgow Schools Rowing Club
- Stirling Rowing Club
- University of St Andrews Boat Club

Winner: Stirling Rowing Club

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Stirling Rowing Club embraced the challenges of 2020, with a focus on providing opportunities for their community to participate in physical activity and laying foundations for a strong future for the club. SRC is run by a committed team of volunteers who have worked exceptionally hard to deliver their 2020 successes.

Congratulations to all our shortlisted nominations and award winners for the 2019/20 Scottish Rowing Awards. This year has been unlike any we have experienced in recent memory, yet it is clear to see that our rowing community in Scotland is adaptable, resilient and passionate about our sport.



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